

APR 24 1975

Mr. Charles W. Davis, Jr.
4518 Keever Avenue
Long Beach, California 90807

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Mr. Davis:

This is in response to your letter of November 14, 1974, in which you expressed interest in being included in a follow-up study of servicemen who participated in Pacific nuclear tests. The Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), which assumed the AEC's research and development functions on January 19 of this year, is grateful for your expression of interest. The delay in this response was due to a need to search old files to seek relevant information concerning the Pacific tests.

ERDA does collaborate with Dr. T. N. Noguchi and others in a follow-up program to obtain radiation dose estimates for persons who were exposed to radiation during the nuclear bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The results of that study will assist local health authorities in formulating programs of medical surveillance of members of that exposed population when needed.

On the other hand, any follow-up relative to radiation exposure of servicemen would be a responsibility of the Department of Defense. To our knowledge, however, no follow-up study of servicemen who participated in Operation Crossroads has been undertaken by DOD. However, AEC and certain of its contractors have maintained files of radiation exposures that occurred during some Pacific tests. Our investigation of those files as well as the recollection of a person who participated in the radiation safety program for those tests indicate that exposures were insignificant during Operation Crossroads. Furthermore, proximity to a vessel containing a test device prior to detonation would not have involved an appreciable exposure. For these

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reasons we believe that your participation in Operation Crossroads would not have exposed you to any unusual amounts of radiation.

Please accept our best wishes for the successful treatment of your medical condition. Your treatment is being provided by an excellent group of physicians. Please accept our apologies for the delay, and do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Sidney Marks, M.D.
Analysis and Assessment Programs
Division of Biomedical and
Environmental Research

bcc: DMA
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